

of my letter of philosophy

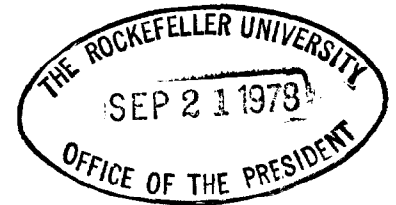
Ph.D. Program in Urban & Regional Planning

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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September 11, 1978

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
President Rockefeller University
New York, NY 10021



Dear Dr. Lederberg:

What a pleasant surprise to hear from you! I can still remember vividly our time together ~~and~~^{at} Asilomar. Would that there were other such occasions!

Enclosed as per your request is a copy of my paper "On Growth and the Limits of Organizational Responsiveness" as well as another paper in which I am proposing that technology assessments be conceived of and used as a product more akin to art than as a purely logical exercise. I hope you will be intrigued with the argument--if you have the time in your busy life to scan it. The third reprint is the last chapter from my book On Learning to Plan and Planning to Learn which proposes that the only appropriate and feasible mode for long range social planning is to treat the planning process as a learning process rather than an engineering process. The epilogue summarizes the argument in the book and tries to go forward a bit with some anticipations. In view of your present role and in the light of my recollections of our conversations I thought that you might find this approach to long range planning to be attractive. I hope so! Finally, I've enclosed as per your request a copy of my recent publication list. If there is any title that intrigues you please do let me know.

Let me close with all warmest personal regards.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Donald N. Michael".

Donald N. Michael
Prof. of Planning and Public Policy
Prof. of Psychology

DM:mc
Enclosures

JOHN D. NYSTUEN, *Geography, Program Chairman*; FREDERICK L. GOODMAN, *Education, Vice-Chairman*; RICHARD N. L. ANDREWS, *Natural Resources*; THOMAS J. ANTON, *Political Science*; DONALD R. DESKINS, *Geography*; WILLIAM D. DRAKE, *Natural Resources*; ALLAN G. FELDT, *Natural Resources*; ROBERT J. HARRIS, *Law*; MORTON S. HILBERT, *Environmental Health*; RACHEL KAPLAN, *Natural Resources*; DONALD N. MICHAEL, *Psychology*; WILLIAM B. NEENAN, *Economics*; STEPHEN C. PARASKEVOPOULOS, *Architecture*; KARL G. PEARSON, *Business Administration*; STEPHEN M. POLLOCK, *Industrial Engineering*.